

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraph 23 (p. 7) as follows:

In a further aspect of the present invention, a chew toy includes granulate rawhide paste or homogenous composite having interspersed flavor chunks in an elongate flavor member.

Please amend paragraph 54 (pp. 14-15) as follows:

In use, a carnivorous animal, particularly a domestic dog, will take an initial interest in the chew toy 100 of the present invention because of the exposed exterior flavor member, end portions 122 and 124. These exterior flavor member end portions 122 and 124 attract a dog visually and by unencumbered scent. Having first identified the source of the desirable scent as being the end portions, a dog may initially chew these portions until the dog discovers that the flavor member extends further into the interior the body. The dog must then find a solution for extracting more of the flavor member from inside of the body. Because of the texture of the granulate rawhide and/or adherent in rawhide body 110, the dog cannot ~~simple~~simply pull out the flavor member 120 and leave the remaining rawhide body 110 behind. In this manner, the chew toy will occupy the dog for a long period of time as the dog chews on the body portion dissolving and breaking off bits of rawhide until additional portions of the flavor member can be reached.

Please amend paragraph 59 (pp. 16-17) as follows:

In one example of a molding type method, molds halves 401 and 402 represent mating portions of a bone shaped mold. See FIG. 4. The mold halves 401 and 402 contain, respectively, product forming cavities 404 and 406. The cavities 404 and 406 of the mold halves 401 and 402 may be filled with the rawhide mixture or granulate rawhide

paste 300 thereby forming two layers. For example, an upper layer and a lower layer. An elongate flavor member 120 is placed on one layer, as shown in FIG. 5. The elongate flavor member 120 can be pre-dipped in adherent, such as the aforementioned starch. Further, one or both of the layers can be coated with adherent. The layers are then compressed together bonding the halves together and bonding to the flavor member 120. A recess 408 can be formed in one or both of the mold halves for receipt of end portions 122 and 124 of the flavor member. Recesses 408 prevent the freely extending end portions of flavor member 120 from being unduly flattened during layer compression, and may assist in the accurate placement of the flavor member 120.

Please amend paragraph 60 (p. 17) as follows:

The molded product is then baked or otherwise dried. Raising the temperature of the rawhide mixture and/or jerky serves to solidify the chew toy and has a further benefit of killing unwanted bacteria, germs, microbes, and pathogens. Particularly, drying the chew toy in a temperature of at least 75 degrees Celsius (167 degrees Fahrenheit) is ~~known~~ known to kill salmonella. The chew toy can be heated at about 60 to 100 degrees Celsius (140 to 212 degrees Fahrenheit) for a duration of about 0 to 48 hours, generally about twelve hours. Alternatively, the chew toy can be heated at a low temperature of about 50 to 70 degrees Celsius (122 to 158 degrees Fahrenheit) for about 1 to 4 hours to physically affect the composition of the chew, and at a higher temperature of 75 to 95 degrees Celsius (167 to 203 degrees Fahrenheit) for about 0 to 3 hours to chemically affect the composition of the chew. The temperature and time may vary depending on the size of the chew toy and type of heat administered.

Please amend paragraph 61 (pp. 17-18) as follows:

In an alternative method of making the chew toy, a mold cavity 501 is provided for

injection molding. A mold cavity 501 is formed in mold 502. Mold 502 includes at least one port 504 for injecting granulate rawhide paste into cavity 501. Mold 502 further includes a region 508 for receipt of flavor member 120 prior to injecting the granulate paste into cavity 502. Mold 502 may be split into two parts along line 510 for removal of the formed chew toy. The chew toy may be baked or otherwise dried before or after removal to thereby ~~solidifying~~ solidify the granulate rawhide paste. The chew toy is preferably air packed and/or shrink-wrapped to prevent the flavor member from spoiling.

Please amend paragraph 63 (p. 18) as follows:

Most preferably, the chew toy is void of synthetic material. Rawhide and jerky are used because of their biodegradability, ease of digestion by dogs, and attracting to dogs. The chew toy of the present invention is thus environmentally friendly and easier to digest than chew toys that include synthetic materials. Further, since the rawhide is cut or ground into bits or pieces, the chew toy is more suitable for older dogs, dogs with weak or injured jaw, and for young dogs with new teeth.

Please amend paragraph 65 (p. 19) as follows:

FIG. 7 shows another embodiment of the present invention, wherein a chew toy 200 for domestic carnivorous animals is provided with interspersed flavor chunks or pieces 230. Chew toy 200 comprises bits of rawhide 227 mixed with a bonding agent and/or adherent 229 to form a granulate rawhide mixture as described above. However, in this arrangement, the granulate rawhide mixture is interspersed with flavor chunks 230 as generally illustrated in FIGS. 7 and 8. The flavor chunks are scattered through the chew toy to entice a dog or other carnivorous animal to continue chewing ~~to reveal~~ to satisfy their sense of taste and smell with additional flavor chunks. This provides an arrangement where each bite enables the dog to taste

discrete treat pieces and/or enables the dog to be exposed to a fresh jerky or other desirable scent.